

AFFAIRS OF THE DISTRICT.

Proposals Received for New Ten-Town Police Station.

A Citizen's Second Complaint of a Nuisance—Release of Schlatter, the Healer, Sought by Friends—Sever Causes Damages to Car Tracks.

Proposals for the erection of the new Ten-Town police station were received yesterday by the District Commissioners. A station will be erected there to cost in the neighborhood of \$6,000. The necessity which makes the early erection of the stationhouse imperative has been very great.

When arrests are made now in this locality prisoners must be transported by car or otherwise to No. 7 station in Georgetown. When persons are taken into custody for minor offenses it is very often a question whether an officer should have his heat uncovered for an hour or more until he can deliver his prisoner to the station at the city end of the precinct. This condition will be remedied by the new station. The necessary signal boxes and wires are already in operation and the new station can be placed in charge of a sergeant, as is the practice at Anacostia, on the eastern side of the Potomac River.

A second complaint made by John R. Adams, who lives at 109 Fifth Street southeast, has been received by the District Commissioners. Adams has been complaining of a nuisance caused by the heavy hauling on Fifth Street, between K and L Streets. Mr. Adams states, as he has done before, that there is a case of serious illness in his family, and that on account of the hauling through the street upon which his residence is situated the comfort and recovery of his son, who is ill, are in jeopardy. The dust and dirt on this street necessitate the closing of the window of his home, says Mr. Adams, and the greatly needed fresh air for the patient is unobtainable. The dirt which causes the dust is being hauled from the excavations made at Providence Hospital to the dump.

Mr. Adams has addressed a letter to the Commissioners, in which he states that the Commissioners are requested to have steps taken to abate the nuisance, and that although he looked for relief upon their promise, there has been no change in the conditions.

On Saturday last, the 26th instant, 1 respectively injured by a horse-drawn cart, the cart was driven by a man named John Smith, who was driving a cart loaded with dirt from the excavations made at Providence Hospital, to the dump.

The so-called "divine healer," Francis Schlatter, who recently got into difficulty with the local police, and received punishment as a vagrant in the Police Court, apparently has many friends outside of Washington, who are anxious to secure his release.

Ex-convict Walker, of Milan, Pa., some time ago addressed the District Commissioners on behalf of the divine healer, who has been committed to the workhouse here. Mr. Walker asked the Commissioners to release Schlatter, and to secure the release of Schlatter.

The Commissioners in their reply yesterday, through Dr. Tindall, stated that the application had been received, and that the pardoning power, the officers for which he was committed, is in the hands of the President of the United States. "But as the judges of the Police Court, we cannot extend the privilege where in their judgment it can be done with due regard to the public interest," Dr. Tindall stated in answer, "your communication has been in the first instance transmitted to the judge in charge of the workhouse, and he will be able to give you a definite answer."

The District Commissioners have declined to agree at this time to the recent request of the Metropolitan Railroad Company that the District pay for the raising of their tracks at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and L Street northwest. A sewer is now in course of construction at this point, which will replace the old sewer. The work has recently been done immediately under the tracks of the Metropolitan Railroad Company.

In reply to the request of the company, Dr. Tindall, Secretary of the Board of Commissioners, yesterday addressed the following letter to H. W. Fuller, general manager of the Metropolitan Railroad Company:

"Referring to your communication of the 11th instant, calling attention to the setting of the tracks at the intersection of the sewer at Connecticut Avenue and L Street northwest, and requesting that the same be removed, and the tracks be set back to the old location, I am directed to reply that the Commissioners are officially advised that the setting of the tracks at that point is a matter of public utility, and that it is necessary, but that when the material in the trench has been removed, the tracks will be adjusted to grade and the pavement repaired."

The Attorney for the District, A. B. Duvall, yesterday handed to the District Commissioners a statement of the application of Moore & Hill for the cancellation of the sale of taxes of lot 15, block 2, L Street Park. In rendering his opinion, Attorney Duvall says: "I am of the opinion that this lot was improperly sold in April, 1899, for the whole tax for the year ended June 30, 1899, and that upon payment by the applicant of the second half of the tax for 1899, with penalties, etc., said tax sale should be set aside and the tax for the first half of said year should be canceled."

It appears that a "certified statement of taxes" was issued by the Assessor under the act of Congress approved February 6, 1893, which contained the following notation: "General taxes due as follows: For the year ending June 30, 1899, \$7.42; second half, with penalty and interest thereon, as provided by law." This certified statement was procured for and used in the sale of said lot by the applicant, who was notified by the Assessor.

"In point of fact it would have been 'All taxes for the year ending June 30, 1899, \$7.42.' In the settlement of the sale of the property with the purchaser, the parties understood that only the second half of said tax was due and unpaid. They settled on that basis, and a loss resulted of one-half of the taxes to the parties."

"The tax remaining unpaid, the lot was sold at a tax sale April 18, 1899, to C. H. White, and the period of redemption having expired, the Assessor suggested that it is doubtful whether authority exists for the cancellation of the sale, and the question referred to me as to whether the statement of the Assessor was of such a character as to render the tax sale invalid."

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